

Mann was a longtime member of the Order of Daedalians, where he worked to enroll high school youth in ROTC programs, and sponsored an annual scholarship for ROTC students. He was also served as past Flight Captain of Shangri-La Flight and was an avid and passionate member of this aviation group.

To some, Colonel Mann will be remembered as a patriot and decorated aviator; to others, he will be remembered as a civic leader and tireless advocate for members of our Armed Forces; to his family and friends he will always be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and service of Colonel Bill Mann. My wife Vicki and I send our prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Marge; daughters, Cindy and Karen; grandchildren, Shannon, John, and William; and the entire Mann family.

IN HONOR OF MARILYN HUMMEL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Marilyn Hummel who passed away peacefully in accompaniment of her family on Dec. 31, 2013. Marilyn was an old friend and a champion for environmental and social justice issues.

Marilyn was strong and unwavering in her beliefs and worked tirelessly to generously give back to her community. Her services are almost too extensive to list. She served as President of the League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County; officer in the Rural Bonny Doon Association; office manager and Executive Committee member of the Santa Cruz Group of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club. She was a member of the Santa Cruz County Planning Commission; and member and Chair of the Board of Commissioners of the Santa Cruz County Housing Authority. She was a joyous presence wherever she worked and touched the lives of all those in her wake.

One of Marilyn's crowning achievements was saving an isolated and fragile outcropping of the Santa Cruz Hills along with their rare and endangered species of animals.

She is survived by her husband Don and their four children: Nancy, Bill, Tom, and Chris. My heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to this family.

Mr. Speaker, Marilyn's lifetime of community service stemmed from a place of love and compassion and her vibrant energy will truly be missed.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA HURLEY
AS THE 2014 OKALOOSA COUNTY,
FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE
YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Victoria Hurley as the 2014 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year.

I am proud to recognize her accomplishments as an outstanding educator and the instrumental role she has played in the lives of her students.

Ms. Hurley earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Troy University. A product of the Okaloosa County, Florida school system, Ms. Hurley continues to give back to her community. Ms. Hurley has educated students at Northwood Elementary and Walker Elementary, both located in Crestview, Florida, and has served as a literacy coach. She currently teaches Intensive Reading at her alma mater, Baker School in Baker, Florida. Ms. Hurley is certified in Next Generation Content Area Reading—Professional Development (NGCAR-PD) and K-12 Reading Endorsement. She gives her colleagues and the teachers who encouraged, challenged and mentored her credit for her successful career, but it is mainly because of her passion and commitment to excellence that Ms. Hurley inspires her students to maintain a fervent interest in reading and succeed.

For over fifteen dedicated years, Ms. Hurley has taught a variety of classes with students ranging from the third to tenth grades and has participated in community and statewide projects. Among her accolades are Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year and the Disney Environmental Regional award. Famed Librarian John Cotton Dana once said, "Who dares to teach must never cease to learn." Ms. Hurley truly believes that to be an effective teacher is to be a lifelong learner, and in her spare time, she ensures that she never becomes complacent in her own professional development. Always seeking improvement, Ms. Hurley has instructed 216 hours of professional development and has earned a supplementary 438 hours of in-service credit. In addition to her teaching schedule and time spent on professional development, her service to Okaloosa County is demonstrated by her presence on many school committees and assistance in writing grants.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Hurley as the 2014 Okaloosa County Teacher of the Year. Teachers like Ms. Hurley strive to lead their students down a path of personal and academic success, and Okaloosa County is fortunate to have her as part of its community. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Victoria Hurley, and we wish her all the best.

PATRICIA CLARK BOSTON AIR
ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the rule for the debt ceiling increase.

You may recall that two years ago the Nation's credit rating was downgraded for the first time ever because of politicized negotiations and the initial failure to reach an agreement—and now we risk that and more because an odd lot of members in this body and one, perhaps two in our bicameral twin, wish on the American people out of some misguided principle.

Refusing to raise the debt ceiling poses a cataclysmic danger to the stability of our markets and the economic security of our middle class and complete devastation for the poor.

I agree with President Obama that the full faith and credit of the United States is non-negotiable. The United States has been the worldwide standard bearer for many years and many other nations have been comfortable holding our paper but now our preeminent financial status is in jeopardy.

As former Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke stated last year: "A government shutdown, and perhaps even more so a failure to raise the debt limit, could have very serious consequences for the financial markets and for the economy . . ."

The Federal Government's statutory debt limit currently stands at a sum near \$16.699 trillion; and it needs to be increased.

I ask what we tell the people of China and Japan, who each own over one trillion in U.S. treasury securities. Or Singapore which owns \$80 billion.

We have enjoyed the status for many years now of hearing the phrase: "the flight to Treasuries," from financiers and investment analysts from around the world. This is something we should not and cannot take for granted.

And I ask what about the Seniors and Baby Boomers who literally count on the Social Security Trust Fund for their retirement—because while our international image and reputation are incredibly important, Mr. Speaker, the largest single holder of Treasury Securities is the Trust Fund.

The American people are not just owed government bonds—this Congress—and you—owe them peace of mind let us vote on the debt limit—post haste.

Here are some of those consequences if we do not raise the debt ceiling and pay our nation's bills:

A debt limit increase simply allows Treasury to pay the bills for spending Congress has already approved and does not add one cent to the debt.

House Democrats agree with President Obama that the full faith and credit of the United States is non-negotiable.

HIGHER MORTGAGE COSTS

If a default were to increase mortgage interest rate spreads by as much as they did when Republicans threatened default in 2011—0.7 percentage points—the average homebuyer will pay an extra \$100 a month. [Treasury Department]

This would cost 582,829 Texas residents took out a home mortgage or refinanced their existing mortgage last year \$36,000 over the life of a typical 30 year home loan.

LOST RETIREMENT SAVINGS

American workers retirement accounts—pension funds, 401(k) plans, and Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)—are at risk with a government default as much of them are invested in the stock market.

Private pension balances were 26 percent lower than they would have been if House Republicans had not threatened to default in July 2011. [The American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries]

If a default caused retirement assets to shrink that much again, it will drop the average American's 401(k) by \$15,000 and the average IRA by almost \$23,000.

And the cost would be worse for workers' nearing retirement—dropping an average

near-retirement worker's 401(k) more than \$37,000.

A Republican debt default would put at risk the retirement plans of 4,473,000 Texans.

SENIORS MAY NOT GET THEIR MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS

Fifty-eight million Americans, including seniors, widows, disabled workers and children, rely on Social Security to make ends meet every month.

If Republicans force default, more than 10 million Americans will not get their Social Security on October 23. On November 1, Social Security is scheduled to pay another 26 million Americans.

A Republican debt default would hurt 3,657,907 residents in Texas who rely on their earned Social Security benefits.

DISABLED VETERANS MAY NOT RECEIVE THEIR PENSIONS

Nearly 4 million disabled veterans receive monthly payments in recognition of their service and their sacrifice.

If Republicans force default, they will not receive their benefits on November 1:

299,877 Texas veterans receive disability compensation.

24,984 very poor and disabled veterans in Texas receive a pension to live on.

STUDENT LOANS WILL COST SIGNIFICANTLY MORE

Even a brief default might increase the cost of college.

For a freshman who starts school in 2014 and takes out the maximum annual student loan, their student loan costs are estimated to jump by about \$1,000, increasing loan payments by m percent. [The Institute for College Advancement and Success (TICAS)]

A longer default could increase payments by \$2,000 for the 531,327 Texas students who rely on loans to go to college.

DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS MAY NOT GET PAID FOR TAKING CARE OF AMERICANS WITH MEDICARE

More than a million doctors and hospitals that take care of Medicare beneficiaries have submitted bills for services they already provided. If Republicans force a default and Treasury is unable to pay them, they may not be able to continue caring for the 3,187,332 disabled workers and seniors in Texas.

Higher interest rates for mortgages, auto loans, student loans, and credit cards. Higher interest rates and less access to business loans needed to finance payrolls, build inventories, or invest in equipment & construction.

Families' retirement savings in 401(k)s dropping as the stock market plummets.

3.4 million veterans not receiving disability benefits.

10 million Americans not receiving their Social Security check on time in just the first week.

Drug reimbursements under Medicare stopping, and doctors and hospitals not getting paid.

Mr. Speaker, let's get to work together on behalf of the American people and pass a clean CR an raise the debt limit—now! The people expect nothing less, and time is of-the-essence.

HONORING DR. NEHEMIAH DAVIS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Nehemiah Davis on his fiftieth anniversary

as pastor of the historic Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. The church is in my hometown of Fort Worth, Texas and I am proud to represent this community in Congress. While this year marks Dr. Davis' fiftieth year as pastor of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, I would also like to congratulate him for his installation as President of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America.

Pastor Davis is a native Texan, born in Centerville, and received his Bachelors of Arts degree from Mary Allen College in Crockett, Texas. He also received three degrees from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas including a Bachelor of Divinity, a Master of Divinity, and a Master of Religious Education. He is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Guadalupe Baptist Theological Seminary.

As a regional and civic leader, Dr. Nehemiah Davis served for as a Trustee on the Board of the Fort Worth Independent School District, held various local and national leadership positions within the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) including serving as President of the Fort Worth chapter for over 25 years, and has held a wide array of positions within the Pastor's Conference and the Minister's Conference of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America. He currently serves as Dean of the Congress of the North Texas District Association and a teacher in the Baptist Ministers' Union of Fort Worth/ Tarrant County and Vicinity.

Pastor Davis' dedication to the church and to his community is exceeded only by his devotion to his wife Mrs. Dorothy Nell Cole and his two daughters, Carol Michelle Davis Jackson and Nina Caron Davis, who have given Dr. Davis two grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Davis has lived a life of service to people of faith and his community. I ask my distinguished colleagues of the 113th Congress to join me in honoring Pastor Davis on his fiftieth Anniversary as Pastor of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church as well as an exemplary life of service.

DR. DAVID WELCH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and to honor the life of an extraordinary leader of the Tampa Bay community, Dr. David Welch. His remarkable career in public service and his many contributions to our community stand as a testament to his tremendous character.

Dr. Welch was born in St. Petersburg, Florida. As a young man, Dr. Welch served his country in the U.S. Army Airborne during the Korean War. After the war, Dr. Welch graduated from Florida A&M University and later obtained a doctorate in education from Nova University. Teaching was a lifelong passion for Mr. Welch, who inspired countless young minds during his time as a teacher at Gibbs Junior College and later on at St. Petersburg Vocational-Technical Institute.

Once Dr. Welch began his career, he quickly emerged as a business and community

leader. He founded Welch Tax Services and Accounting which assisted numerous local entrepreneurs and helped foster a thriving business environment in downtown St. Petersburg. As Director of Fiscal Affairs at St. Petersburg Vocation-Technical Institute, he used his adept diplomatic skills to resolve the 116-day sanitation workers' strike of 1968. He would continue to employ his ability to bring people together as the co-chair of the biracial Community Alliance, an organization dedicated to relieving racial tensions in the area.

In 1981, Dr. Welch became the second African American to serve on the St. Petersburg City Council. As a three-term council member, Dr. Welch championed development projects, and was one of the driving forces behind what are today some of St. Petersburg's most prominent landmarks. His efforts were instrumental in the development of Tropicana Field, the Pier, and the Bayfront Center. Dr. Welch was also a strong supporter of municipal interest-free loans for housing which led to major renovations in St. Petersburg. His outgoing nature and diplomatic manner earned him respect and results throughout his tenure as a council member.

While working diligently as a public servant, Dr. Welch continued to remain active in education and supporting local businesses through his office. Dr. Welch was always eager to mentor aspiring leaders and took an active interest in the youth of the community.

On September 16, 2013, Dr. Welch passed away at the age of 85. His legacy of service and leadership are an inspiration for all people throughout this great nation. His commitment to education, economic development, and equality will be forever remembered and appreciated. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Dr. David Welch for his lifelong service to the State of Florida.

IN TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT WARNER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Robert Warner for his service to the people of Connecticut and our nation. A long term resident of Vernon, Connecticut, Robert has dedicated his life to making a difference in his community, both at the local level and in service to our country.

Having known Robert personally for many years as a fellow Vernon resident, one of his greatest attributes is the generosity with which he gives his time. As a 14-year volunteer for the Meals on Wheels service, a respected coach for girls softball, the founder of the Vernon Toastmasters Club and a deacon and active member of the Vernon First Congregational Church, Robert has always been there for those in need.

Bob also wore the uniform of our nation as a Marine during World War II. Bob saw some of the conflict's heaviest combat in the Battle of Iwo Jima and the Battle of Guam. As so many others from "The Greatest Generation," Bob has been modest about his military service—focusing instead on his fellow Marines who did not return. His quiet, strong patriotism is the ultimate manifestation of the Marine Corps motto—Semper Fidelis.